

## **American Emergency Services**

The U.S. Consular Section can assist American citizens in a range of emergency situations. All Americans traveling to Sierra Leone are strongly encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy.

You may contact the U.S. Embassy at any time to report an emergency involving a U.S. Citizen.

Please carefully review [What the Department of State Can and Can't Do in a Crisis](#).

The Consular Section provides emergency services to Americans. Such services include visiting American detainees in custody, providing information about physicians and hospitals, helping family members and friends in the United States locate and transmit information to American citizens believed to be in Sierra Leone, and assisting when an American dies abroad.

## **Reporting Crimes**

American citizens who are victims or witnesses of a crime are encouraged to report crimes to the police by telephoning.

American crime victims are also strongly encouraged to report all criminal incidents to the Consular Section by emailing <http://freetown.usembassy.gov/service.html> or calling 232 76 515 000.

## **Assistance from the U.S. Consular Section**

A Consular Officer can also provide the following assistance for victims of violent crime:

- Assess and address safety issues and immediate emergency medical and physical needs of the victim in coordination with local authorities. Consular officers can assist with immediate basic needs, such as shelter, food and clothing.
- Identify additional services that can be provided, including referral to specialized victim assistance and compensation programs in the U.S.
- Keep abreast of the status of the police investigation and request a copy of the police report to provide to the victim.
- Talk with victims about what happened and help them ventilate their emotions. Listening with great care is a key part of the consular officer's function.
- Provide victims with information about what will happen next. Help victims prepare for and regain control of their lives.

Thousands of American citizens travel to Sierra Leone each year and most experience an enriching and incident-free trip. However, some unexpected crime and inconveniences do befall some American citizens visiting Sierra Leone.

## **Fingerprinting in Sierra Leone:**

Employment applicants wishing to have their finger prints taken should forward a letter to the Head of Crime Management, Criminal Investigations Department (CID) Headquarters in Freetown. The letter and print cards should be hand delivered to the officer in "Room number 27" for a fee of Three

Hundred Thousand Leones **(Le 300, 000)** payable at the Bank of Sierra Leone account number **1100666**.

[Death of U.S. Citizen](#)

[Arrest of U.S. Citizen](#)

[Missing Persons](#)

[Victims of Crime overseas](#)

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